

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 191028

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS SUMMARY, AUGUST 12

1. NYT (PAGE 1) "BUTZ CALLS FOR SUSPENSION OF GRAIN SALES TO MOSCOW." IN VIEW OF LOW CORN CROP ESTIMATES AND INCREASED ESTIMATE OF TOTAL EXPORTS OF GRAIN, WITH RECENT UNFAVORABLE WEATHER IN WESTERN EUROPE, LESS OPTIMISTIC CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN PROSPECTS, GRAIN COMPANIES WERE CALLED ON TO WITHHOLD TEMPORARILY FURTHER SALES TO THE SOVIET UNION. SECRETARY BUTZ CONTINUED TO SAY THAT EFFECT OF SALES TO SOVIET UNION WOULD BE 'NEGLIGIBLE' AND SOVIET TRADE VALUABLE. TOTAL PRODUCTION STILL SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER THAN LOW LEVELS OF 1974. INSPECTION TEAM REPORTED THAT ALTHOUGH DRY WEATHER HAS CUT PROSPECTS IN SOVIET SPRING WHEAT AREA VISITED, NO DISASTER CONDITIONS OBSERVED; SOVIET PRODUCTION NOW ESTIMATED AT 180 MILLION TONS. (ALL PAPERS)

2. NYT (PAGE 6) "MOSCOW NOW PRESSING DISARMAMENT" BY CHRISTOPHER WREN.

3. WP (PAGE 1) SECRETARY SCHLESINGER, IN A SECRET UNCLASSIFIED

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DECISION MEMORANDUM HAS DIRECTED THE NAVY TO TURN AWAY

FROM GIANT CARRIERS AND PLAN A CLASS OF SMALLER ONES IN HIS NEW FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR THE NATION'S MILITARY POS-

TURE. LATTER WOULD BEEF UP AMERICAN FORCES DESIGNED
PRIMARILY FOR LESS THAN ALL-OUT NUCLEAR WAR.

4. WP - JOSEPH KRAFT COLUMN "A TURNING TIDE IN PORTUGAL."
ALTHOUGH PROSPECTS STILL UNCERTAIN, COMMUNISTS APPEAR
TO BE LOSING GROUND IN PORTUGAL.

5. WP - JAMES J. KILPATRICK COLUMN LISTS HELSINKI,
REFUSAL TO SEE SOLZHENTISIN, THE SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION
OF CIA, PORTUGAL, AND SOUTHEAST ASIA, AS EVIDENCE OF
DETERIORATING U.S. STRENGTH. IF CO-EXISTENCE IS NOT TO
BE MASTER-SLAVE RELATIONSHIP, WE MUST UNDERSTAND
COMMUNISM IS THE ENEMY OF FREEDOM.

6. CSM (PAGE 3) "BIG LABOR ASSAILS FORD'S DETENTE POLICY
-- AFL-CIO CHIEF REMAINS SKEPTICAL OVER FORD-KISSINGER
DEALINGS WITH THE KREMLIN."

7. JOSEPH C. HARSCH COLUMN "KISSINGER AND THE PRESS"
BLAMES SECRETARY KISSINGER'S POOR HANDLING OF PRESS FOR
BAD AMERICAN PRESS ON HELSINKI. AT NO BACKGROUND
BRIEFING WAS THERE AN ENTHUSIASTIC UPBEAT BRIEFING ABOUT
POSSIBLE ADVANTAGES TO THE WEST. INsofar AS PRESS HAD
GUIDANCE, IT WAS NEGATIVE. KISSINGER

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